



**Open Space Committee
Town Hall Annex, First Floor
Minutes 1/26/17**

Present: Brian Kelder, Ann LeRoy, Wendy Richter, David White, John Pickle, Elena Bartholomew, Elisabeth Carr-Jones, Jane Auger

Absent: Teresa DeBenedictis, Kelsey Cowan, Nat Strosberg

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm

December minutes were reviewed and accepted with revisions.

Welcome Elisabeth Carr-Jones as Vision 2020 liaison.

Annual Report to Town submitted via Planning Department (Ann)
Report was reviewed; will be printed in the Town Report and posted on the Town website.

Take-A-Walk/Connecting Arlington's Open Spaces (Wendy)

Kelsey has scheduled meeting with Adam to finalize East Arlington route map.

Ed Gordon does a spring walking tour, "Walking in Arlington" -- perhaps this year at the western end of town, including the Mill Brook stretch; date not finalized. We may ask him to do a separate walk around Spy Pond related to our walking tour maps.

Continue to develop ideas for walking tour maps in the Heights.

Possible descriptors to include on map: flat vs. steep, valley vs. hill, types of walking surfaces

Picture Post Project (John)

John is developing an informational article for the Arlington Advocate and outreach to ACMI, Your Arlington. It will be included on OSC section of the Town website.

Posts are currently in place at Menotomy Rocks Park and the Reservoir; John is exploring new placements at Spy Pond, along Mill Brook, Robbins Farm Park, and other locations.

Open Space and Recreation Plan (2015-2022) (Wendy, John, Brian)

Discussion of tracking methods for actions/accomplishments over time - spreadsheet as index, and Google Docs and Folders as working documents; need to be able to sort for different variables. Check compatibility between Google and Excel.

There is a way to track visitors to our section of the Town Website that we will explore with Joan Roman, Town web master.

CPA Project Applications FY 2018

Community Preservation Committee meetings to review applications will be on 1/31/17, 2/1/17, 2/2/17. Three projects relate to our open space concerns:

Park & Rec/Con-Com Master Plan for Reservoir

Mystic River Watershed Association Pilot Project for Mill Brook at Wellington Park

Spy Pond Erosion Control (phase two)

Updates current CPA projects

Robbins Farm Park and Rec Project – Elena reported that Park and Rec Commission is getting together information to go out to bid on the project, including soil studies.

Spy Pond erosion control – David reported that Con Com has completed phase one and is submitting another proposal for phase two for implementation of recommendations.

News and Reports

Magnolia Park wildflower area; proposal to create bird houses and paint utility boxes; perhaps funding through Vision 2020 via Arlington Public Art; Boy Scouts are looking for a Centennial project to do as well.

Arlington Commission for Arts and Culture is meeting 2/2/17 with follow ups in March and May; to establish coordination for Public Arts projects and cultural district designation. Ann may attend.

Mugar Land development - on legal hold

Mill Brook - study group clean up scheduled for Sunday, April 30

EcoFest - none this year

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15

Submitted by Jane Auger

2017 Meeting Dates (4th Thursdays)

February 23, March 23, April 27, May 25, June 22